

## Appendix E—Stakeholder Analysis

In 1976, the [James River Association](http://www.jamesriverassociation.org) was established and has evolved into a member-supported nonprofit organization that “helps people of all ages enjoy, appreciate and protect the beauty and health of the James River for future generations to enjoy.” The oldest river conservation group in Virginia, and the only organization solely working to protect “America's Founding River,” JRA has four core programs - river advocacy, James RiverKeeper, watershed restoration and education and outreach. JRA has partnered with other groups to create blueway maps for the Middle James (Lynchburg to Richmond) and the Lower James (Richmond to the Chesapeake Bay). In 2010, Botetourt County developed a water trail for the section from Iron Gate to Arcadia. Data from all maps and the missing section from Arcadia to Lynchburg will be captured in JRA's interactive map for release in Spring of 2011. Visit [www.jamesriverassociation.org](http://www.jamesriverassociation.org).

The [Virginia Canals and Navigations Society](http://vacanals.org) (VC&NS) was formed in 1977 to preserve and enhance Virginia's rich inland waterways heritage, and their members pursue “history, exploration, archaeology, modeling, local lore and legend, restoration, preservation, park and trail development” for the benefit of their communities and the state. Regional Directors monitor canal and river navigation sites and cooperate locally to accomplish the society's objectives. Sponsors of the James River Batteau Festival, the society has also established Canal Information Centers at multiple locations throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia with complete collections of their river atlas publications. Visit [vacanals.org](http://vacanals.org).

The **James River Task Force** was established by elected officials from the Richmond metropolitan area at a summit meeting in 1993 to study the development of the James River as a regional tourist attraction. In May 1999, the Task Force transitioned to the [James River Advisory Council](http://www.jamesriveradvisorycouncil.com). JRAC serves as a forum for the diverse interests along the James River in Central Virginia and communicates with public officials regarding issues and challenges facing the river and its resources. The Advisory Council's vision is to unite the community by supporting and promoting the James River as a common resource and preserving its health, beauty, heritage, economic vitality and recreational value. JRAC sponsors the James River Parade of Lights in December, James River Days publication during the summer, and the James River Regional Clean Up in June. Initially a 30-member advisory board appointed by the task force, JRAC has over seventy members including representatives from eight local jurisdictions (Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent and Powhatan and Richmond), local businesses and industries, civic organizations and citizens. Visit [www.jamesriveradvisorycouncil.com](http://www.jamesriveradvisorycouncil.com).

A related group comprised of the Greater Richmond Chamber and the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission held a series of stakeholder meetings in 2010 to identify and implement strategic priorities for the Richmond region that will improve quality of life. Of the six strongly preferred regional priorities in the **Capital Region Collaborative's** draft plan, a “leveraged James River” was considered the most neglected. Strategies to leverage the river include development of a regional riverfront

plan and improved marketing, access, and safety.

The [James River Partnership](#) was formed in 1995 to address a number of problems facing the James River Federal Navigation project, which extends 90 miles from Hampton Roads to the Richmond Harbor. The primary problem was restricted navigation due to extensive shoaling in the James River. The stated objective of the Partnership is to “maintain unrestricted navigation with economic benefits for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and foster environmental cooperation and stewardship.” Members include representatives of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; U.S. Coast Guard; Virginia Pilot Association; Federal, state, and local environmental agencies; port/terminal operators, shippers, shipping lines, and agents; local governments; Congressional representatives; engineering companies; and other interested partners. State agencies include the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ,) the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC,) the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS,) the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR.) Visit [www.nao.usace.army.mil/partnerships/James%20River/homepage.asp](http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/partnerships/James%20River/homepage.asp).

Through the [Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network](#), the National Park Service has helped provide high-quality public access, stewardship and interpretive and educational projects for a system of over 160 parks, refuges, museums, historic communities and water trails in the Bay watershed. This system includes the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (CAJO) and 13 Gateway sites and 4 water trails along the James River. Visit [www.baygateways.net](http://www.baygateways.net).

The Friends of the John Smith Chesapeake Trail and the Friends of Chesapeake Gateways merged in 2010 under the name of the [Chesapeake Conservancy](#) to conserve the region’s most treasured landscapes; expand public access, recreation and tourism; and educate citizens about stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The organization plans to “marshal new resources, advance federal and state policies and forge public and private partnerships to increase public access, expand conservation of the Chesapeake’s treasured landscapes, and promote recreation and stewardship of the region’s natural, cultural, and historic resources.” The Conservancy’s focus will be the advancement of CAJO and Chesapeake Gateways/Watertrails and Treasured Landscapes. Visit [www.friendsofthejohnsmithtrail.org](http://www.friendsofthejohnsmithtrail.org).

The Conservancy organized a group called **Partners for a Chesapeake Bay Treasured Landscape Initiative** that includes non-profit organizations like groups like the Nature Conservancy, The [Conservation Fund](#), the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Izaak Walton League, the [American Canoe Association](#), and federal and state agencies to advance funding and other tools to expand conservation and access in the Chesapeake. This group has urged federal leadership to:

- Provide sufficient funding to establish and advance a Chesapeake Bay Treasured Landscape Initiative that includes targeted land conservation actions including acquisitions and conservation easements, creation of new units of the National Park

and Wildlife Refuge system, and significant expansion of public access and interpretation opportunities throughout the Chesapeake;

- Set an ambitious goal for conserving and sustaining Chesapeake Treasured Landscapes consistent with the spirit of the initiative; and,
- Fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and set aside 10 percent of the LWCF to initiate a Chesapeake Treasured Landscape program.

The [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](http://www.cbf.org) is working toward a vision of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers as highly productive and in good health as measured by water clarity, lack of toxic contaminants, and abundance of natural filters in the water and on the land. CBF fights for strong and effective laws and regulations to protect and restore the Bay and runs an environmental education program to heighten sensitivity, increase knowledge, and empower citizens to take positive action toward the Bay's restoration. Visit [www.cbf.org](http://www.cbf.org).

The [Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay](http://allianceforthebay.org) focuses on collaboration to address issues that affect the Bay and its streams and rivers by engaging, educating, partnering and inspiring other organizations, communities, businesses and individuals. The Alliance focuses on developing innovative solutions and long-term strategies and actions that can be achieved through collaboration and common goals. Visit [allianceforthebay.org](http://allianceforthebay.org).

[Scenic Virginia](http://www.scenicva.org) is the only statewide organization in the Commonwealth dedicated solely to the preservation, protection and enhancement of Virginia's scenic beauty and community character, with a particular emphasis on the preservation of significant viewsheds. Visit [www.scenicva.org](http://www.scenicva.org).

The [Virginia Conservation Network](http://vcnva.org/anx) actively supports conservation in Virginia through public policy research, advocacy, education, and capacity building for its network of over 100 organizations committed to protecting Virginia's natural resources. VCN serves as a catalyst for sound and sustainable environmental policy by acting as researchers, advocates and watchdogs on issues ranging from cleaning the Chesapeake Bay to creating 21st century energy and transportation networks. Visit [vcnva.org/anx](http://vcnva.org/anx).

[The Foundation for Virginia's Natural Resources](http://www.fvnr.org) contributes to projects and programs that strengthen "environmental education, pollution prevention and citizen monitoring" and foster collaboration among businesses, citizens, communities, local governments and state agencies. The Foundation supports non-regulatory, voluntary efforts that address priorities outlined in the Foundation's business plan such as River Basin Strategies, Outdoor Classrooms, Forestry and Agricultural education and programs of 'statewide importance.' [www.fvnr.org](http://www.fvnr.org).

[The Friends of the Rivers of Virginia](http://forva.org), a coalition of groups and individuals dedicated to river protection and conservation, provide communication and coordination for conservation groups in Virginia. They are active in the research and development of river-related legislation and regulations, and keep their membership informed about specific river issues as well as expertise in organizing new river protection groups. Visit [forva.org](http://forva.org).

[The Float Fishermen of Virginia](http://www.floatfishermen.org) is a statewide organization of canoeists, kayakers, rafters and other boaters that float the rivers, streams and waterways of Virginia and work to preserve and protect these important natural resources. During the VIP float in June, Virginia's legislators and their families are hosted for a float that calls attention to a fine Virginia stream. Visit [www.floatfishermen.org](http://www.floatfishermen.org).

[Coastal Canoeists](http://coastals.org) is a family-oriented club, dedicated to the enjoyment and advancement of paddlesports, made up of canoeists, kayakers and others from the southeastern U.S.-- primarily Virginia. Activities of the club include an active club volunteer-coordinated trip roster with trips each weekend for members at all skill levels. Members speak out to encourage environmental responsibility for keeping Virginia's and America's rivers clean. Public accessibility issues, including disabled accessibility issues, are also addressed. Visit [coastals.org](http://coastals.org).

Because the area around the mouth of Chesapeake Bay is globally significant for migratory birds, the [Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory](http://www.cvwo.org) conducts field research and educational programs within the watershed in Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, near Williamsburg and in Richmond. A partner, the [Virginia Society of Ornithology](http://www.vso.org) exists to encourage the systematic study of birds in Virginia, to stimulate interest in birds, and to assist the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources. Local chapters of the [Audubon Society](http://www.audubon.org) within the watershed are advocates for the conservation and preservation of wildlife habitat for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. Visit [www.cvwo.org](http://www.cvwo.org).

[Virginia's United Land Trusts \(VaULT\)](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation/wheretofind/vault) serves as the statewide umbrella organization representing 29 private, non-profit organizations working to conserve Virginia's natural, cultural, historic, scenic and recreational resources and working forests and farmlands. Each typically serves a particular region of the state and/or exists for a particular purpose, such as habitat protection or historical preservation. Statewide land trusts include [APVA](http://www.apva.org), [Preservation Virginia](http://www.preservationvirginia.org), [Ducks Unlimited](http://www.ducksunlimited.org), [The 500-Year Forest Foundation](http://www.500yearforestfoundation.org), [The Conservation Fund](http://www.conservationsfund.org), [The Nature Conservancy](http://www.thenatureconservancy.org), [Trust for Public Land](http://www.trustforpublicland.org) and the [Virginia Outdoors Foundation](http://www.virginiaoutdoorsfoundation.org). Visit [www.dcr.virginia.gov/land\\_conservation/wheretofind/vault](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation/wheretofind/vault).

The [Archaeological Conservancy](http://www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html) is the only national non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving the best of our nation's remaining archaeological sites. Visit [www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html](http://www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html)

[The Civil War Preservation Trust](http://www.civilwar.org) is America's largest non-profit organization devoted to the preservation of our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields. The Trust also promotes educational programs and heritage tourism initiatives to inform the public of the war's history and the fundamental conflicts that sparked it. Visit [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org).

[Virginia's Retreat](http://www.virginiaretreat.org) was organized in March, 1993 to explore ways that the Counties of [Amelia](http://www.ameliacountyva.com), [Appomattox](http://www.appomattoxva.com), [Buckingham](http://www.buckinghamva.com), [Cumberland](http://www.cumberlandva.com), [Dinwiddie](http://www.dinwiddieva.com), [Nottoway](http://www.nottowayva.com), [Prince Edward](http://www.princeedwardva.com) and the [City of Petersburg](http://www.cityofpetersburgva.com) could work together to promote the region's rich abundance of natural and historical resources. Virginia's Retreat is a region in South Central Virginia

offering travelers the Lee's Retreat and Wilson-Kautz Raid Civil War driving tours, the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail®, a wide variety of tourist attractions and abundant outdoor recreational opportunities. Visit [www.varetreat.com](http://www.varetreat.com).

The Charlottesville, Lower Shenandoah, Lynchburg, Powhatan, Richmond and Williamsburg [Civil War Round Tables](http://www.civilwararchive.com/RNDTABLE/webtable.htm) provide a format where individuals meet to discuss military actions, the effects of political decisions, and the societal customs that pertain to the American Civil War 1861-1865. These non biased, broad-based organizations encourage and stimulate interest in the preservation and protection of the landmarks, earthworks, relics, and collections of data pertinent to the above period for use by the general public. Visit [www.civilwararchive.com/RNDTABLE/webtable.htm](http://www.civilwararchive.com/RNDTABLE/webtable.htm).

The mission of [Virginia Environmental Endowment](http://www.virginiaenvironmentalendowment.org) is to improve the quality of the environment by using its capital to encourage all sectors to work together to prevent pollution, conserve natural resources, and promote environmental literacy. The Virginia Program supports community action, reinforced and informed by research and education. The Virginia Mini-Grant Program has enabled thousands of citizens to become actively involved in solving environmental problems in their own hometowns

#### [Watershed Roundtables](#)

In 2001, watershed roundtables were established to advise Virginia agencies on refinement and implementation of tributary strategies for nutrient and sediment reduction and related water quality initiatives. Roundtables were comprised of representatives of local governments and representatives of business and industry, agriculture, forestry, fishing and environmental organizations, and others. The roundtables provided a mechanism for educating participants on water quality issues, funding opportunities and technologies, and techniques for achieving water quality and living resource goals.

In 2007, the Lower James River (Hampton Roads) Watershed Roundtable was restructured to promote participation from groups outside of state and local government and to meet HRPDC goals for citizen input. The reorganized roundtable includes representatives from the agricultural community, the development community, chambers of commerce, and industry and civic organizations, in addition to local and regional environmental organizations. Additionally, the **Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable** now encompasses all the watersheds found in the region, including the James, York, Chowan, and Southern Rivers and Atlantic Coastal Basins and serves as a viable regional mechanism for improving dialogue between the private sector and state, local, and regional agencies on environmental issues. Visit [www.dcr.virginia.gov/stormwater\\_management/roundtables.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/stormwater_management/roundtables.shtml).

The [Middle James Roundtable](#) is a collaborative effort to improve water quality and the overall health of communities in the middle James watershed. Roundtable stakeholders include elected officials, local government staff, the agricultural community, planning district commissions, business and industry, water and sewer utilities, commercial fishermen, soil and water conservation districts, developers, interested citizens, environmental groups, tourism and recreational groups, state and federal agency staff and

public service authorities. Roundtable activities are dictated by the participants and can involve activities such as hosting forums to discuss local watershed issues and land use, educating citizens about water quality, grant writing, coordinating workshops, social marketing campaigns, collecting and analyzing water quality data and planning and implementation of watershed goals. The [Upper James River Roundtable](#) (UJRR) originally formed in October, 1999 to implement on the ground solutions to assist DCR with the state's Tributary Strategy.

[Virginia Save Our Streams](#) monitors water quality of Virginia's streams and educates the public about importance of clean water. Virginia Save Our Streams is a program of the [Izaak Walton League of America](#).

[Virginia Citizens for Water Quality](#) coordinate existing volunteer water quality monitoring efforts, identify appropriate volunteer water quality monitoring methodologies and uses of volunteer water quality monitoring data, and promote watershed water quality and stream health needs and issues.

[The Virginia Horse Council's](#) mission is to serve as the umbrella organization of the Virginia equine community and to serve as the lobbyist on issues affecting, horsemen, horsewomen and horses in the Commonwealth. Along with training and recruiting volunteers for trail development and maintenance, the Council is developing a comprehensive regional listings of the state's public horse trails hosted on the [Virginia Outdoors website](#). Trail location, mileage, terrain, trail markings, pictures, and helpful suggestions - such as when to ride to avoid biting insects - are listed for each trail, along with rules specific to that location. Visit [www.virginiahorsecouncil.org/](http://www.virginiahorsecouncil.org/).

[The Virginia Bicycling Federation](#) works to increase bicycling safety, roadway access, and bicycling education while promoting the use of the bicycle as an energy-efficient means of transportation, physical fitness, and recreation. VBF actively works for changes needed in public policy and community attitudes that will improve the safety, convenience or acceptance of bicycling within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Visit [www.vabike.org](http://www.vabike.org).

The [International Mountain Bicycling Association](#), working in this corridor through the [Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts](#), the [Greater Lynchburg Off-Road Cyclists](#), the [Eastern Virginia Mountainbike Assoc](#), and the [Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club](#), have built miles of single-track trail and encouraged private investment in many volunteer projects. IMBA's mission is to create, enhance and preserve great trail experiences for mountain bikers worldwide. They "bring out the best in mountain biking by encouraging low-impact riding, volunteer trailwork participation, cooperation among different trail user groups, grassroots advocacy and innovative trail management solutions." Visit [www.imba.com](http://www.imba.com)

[The Appalachian Trail Conservancy](#) has three clubs maintaining trails in this corridor: the Old Dominion AT Club based in Richmond, (maintains 19.1 miles of the A.T. from Rockfish Gap to Reeds Gap at Virginia 664) the Tidewater AT Club based in Norfolk (10.5 miles of the A.T. from Reed's Gap at Virginia 664 to Virginia 56) and the Natural



Bridge Appalachian Trail Club, based in Lynchburg (90.6 miles of the A.T. from the Tye River at Virginia 56 to Black Horse Gap). The Conservancy is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to the preservation and management of the natural, scenic, historic, and cultural resources associated with the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in order to provide primitive outdoor-recreation and educational opportunities for Trail visitors. Visit [www.appalachiantrail.org](http://www.appalachiantrail.org).

The [East Coast Greenway Alliance](http://www.greenway.org/index.shtml) is the non-profit organization spearheading the development of the East Coast Greenway. Based in Durham, NC, the ECGA also employs field staff in each of its four regions. The Alliance promotes the vision for connecting local trails into a continuous route, provides strategic assistance for states, counties, and municipalities that build local trail sections, officially designates trails as part of the ECG trail system, posts signage, and makes maps and guides to facilitate use of the Greenway. Visit [www.greenway.org/index.shtml](http://www.greenway.org/index.shtml).

The [Virginia Capital Trail Foundation](http://www.virginiacapitaltrail.org) has worked in partnership with the Virginia Department of Transportation and other state agencies and stakeholders to fulfill the world-class vision of an off-road, multipurpose trail linking downtown Richmond to Williamsburg along the VCT and the Colonial Parkway. The Foundation promotes best practices for trail construction and physical enhancements while remaining sensitive to the environment and the concerns of the community. Once the VCT is complete in 2014, there may be an opportunity to expand the mission of the Foundation, or create an auxiliary group, that would play a similar role for the development of the James River Heritage Trail. Visit [www.virginiacapitaltrail.org](http://www.virginiacapitaltrail.org).

In Richmond, approximately 10 miles of riverfront, single-track trail have been developed by the [James River Park System](#) and volunteers, most notably the [James River Outdoor Coalition](#). The 3.75 North Bank Trail, valued at \$200,000, was built completely by volunteers overseen by City of Richmond Parks and Rec. Department. The Buttermilk trail utilized about \$8,000 of volunteer funds to upgrade bridges and a kiosk.

Forest Hill Park was completely redeveloped in 2010 using volunteer funds and park staff. Four miles of trail development there is valued at \$150,000. Annually there are over 1,000 volunteer hours donated to the James River Park trail system. This popular trail system has discouraged illegitimate use of the river, and attracted international events (Xterra Off-Road Triathlon for 12 years) national events (the National Duathlon on and off-road), and local events like Dominion River Rocks.

In addition, River Road has been designated by the City as a Scenic Road, and efforts are underway to make this road safer for non-motorized users. The City's Bike-Ped-Trail Commission has recommended road, sidewalk and bridge treatments throughout the City to move toward a system of complete Streets. Visit [www.richmondgov.com/parks/index.aspx](http://www.richmondgov.com/parks/index.aspx).

In Lynchburg, neighborhoods are linked to the river by 3 miles of riverfront multipurpose trail and a connecting 14-mile bicycle trail along Blackwater Creek provided by

**Lynchburg Parks and Recreation**. This trail system is also popular with visitors to the City. The trail system continues across the river into Amherst County. Amherst also has a section of the 7-mile Blue Ridge Railway Trail that follows the banks of the Piney and Tye Rivers. Visit [www.lynchburgva.gov/index.aspx?page=86](http://www.lynchburgva.gov/index.aspx?page=86).

The **US Forest Service** maintains over 950 miles of trails within over a million acres of watershed land, most notably the Appalachian Trail (AT), Little Rocky Row Run, Shenandoah Mountain Trail, Blue Ridge Railway Trail, Sulphur Springs, North Mountain, Locher Tract, Anthony and Paddy Knob trails, South Pedlar and Patterson Mountain ORV trails, and the Glenwood and Alleghany Highlands horse trails. The Great Eastern Trail Association is developing an agreement with the USFS to sign The Great Eastern Trail, which runs west of and roughly parallel to the AT.

The **National Park Service** owns over 250,000 acres in the watershed, and manages trail systems in Shenandoah National Park, Richmond and Petersburg National Battlefield Parks, Blue Ridge Parkway and Colonial National Historical Park.

The **US Fish and Wildlife Service** owns over 6,000 acres in three National Wildlife Preserves and the Harrison Lake Fish Hatchery along the lower James. Efforts to expand these land holdings are underway, as well as efforts to expand river-based transportation to public destinations along the lower James.

The **US Natural Resources Conservation Service** goal is not just a sustainable, nutritious, abundant food supply, but also thriving ecosystems that support a diversity of life. In the next century, NRCS will not only continue to tackle familiar challenges like ensuring clean water and healthy soil, but will also rise to meet new issues, such as clean air, clean energy, climate change, and new technology.

### ***State Leadership***

The **Department of Conservation and Recreation** is authorized to develop and implement a statewide trail system. In addition, staff support the watershed roundtables through regional soil and water conservation districts, **DCR** manages ten [state parks](#) and nine [natural area preserves](#) within the watershed. There are six privately owned natural areas. Landowners who participate in Virginia's Registry of Natural Areas commit to voluntarily preserve and protect natural heritage resources on their land to the best of their ability and to notify DCR of any potential threats to these resources or any intent to transfer ownership.

**Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries** (DGIF) bears special mention because of their role in promoting boater safety, fishing, and watchable wildlife. This agency maintains 21 boating access points along the James, and many others along the tributaries. Sixteen wildlife management areas and 6 public fishing lakes are also within the watershed, and birding and wildlife trail loops are marketed to a national audience.

In addition to managing six state forests within the watershed, the **Virginia Department of Forestry** (DOF) promotes water quality through grant programs, educational outreach



and their riparian buffer tax credit program. Virginia landowners can receive a tax credit for preserving riparian forest buffers along waterways during a timber harvest operation. The amount of the credit is equal to 25% of the value of the timber retained as a buffer up to \$17,500. The buffer must be at least 35 feet wide and no more than 300 feet and be intact for 15 years. The applicant must have a Stewardship Plan for the tract to qualify.

DEQ administers the federal Clean Water Act and enforces state laws to improve the quality of Virginia's streams, rivers, bays and ground water for aquatic life, human health and other water uses. Permits are issued to businesses, industries, local governments and individuals that take into account physical, chemical and biological standards for water quality. DEQ manages 20 programs to monitor, assess, and improve water quality in Virginia.

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources is the State Historic Preservation Office, with a mission to foster, encourage, and support the stewardship of Virginia's significant historic architectural, archaeological, and cultural resources. There are 46 National Historic Landmarks within the watershed along with hundreds of sites on both the National Register of Historic Places & Virginia Landmarks Register. DHR offers Rehabilitation Tax Credits for taxpayers who rehabilitate historic buildings based on total rehabilitation costs. The federal credit is 20% of eligible rehabilitation expenses. The state credit is 25% of eligible rehabilitation expenses. In some cases, taxpayers can qualify under both programs, allowing them to claim credits of 45% of their eligible rehabilitation expenses. Through the Virginia Historic Preservation Easement Program, private owners of historic landmarks have the opportunity to guarantee perpetual protection of their historic resource without giving up ownership, use, or enjoyment of the property.

The Virginia Tourism Authority, doing business as the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) is an organization of more than 70 professionals working in the Richmond office and at 10 Welcome Centers throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. The overriding goal of all of VTC's activities is to "serve the broader interests of the economy of Virginia by supporting, maintaining and expanding the Commonwealth's domestic and international inbound tourism and motion picture production industries in order to increase visitor expenditures, tax revenues and employment."

The Virginia Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus offers their members advocacy, networking and professional development opportunities for the purpose of member destination success. Visit [www.vacvb.com](http://www.vacvb.com).

The Virginia Council on Indians, an advisory board to the Governor and the General Assembly is comprised of eleven tribes. Chickahominy Chief Stephen Adkins, Nansemond Chief Barry Bass and Kenneth Branham of the Monacan Indian Nation represent the tribes within the James River watershed. The Council's duties include studies and research regarding the Indian Tribes in the Commonwealth, and making recommendations to the Commonwealth on issues regarding Virginia Indians.

The [Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#), established in 1877, has both economic development and regulatory responsibilities under state law. VDACS is organized into five units - the Commissioner's Office, Division of Animal and Food Industry Services (AFIS), Division of Charitable Gaming, Division of Consumer Protection, and Division of Marketing. In carrying out its responsibility for representing the concerns and interests of agriculture, VDACS works in cooperation with Virginia State University, Virginia Tech, and the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service on research, education, and marketing projects.

[Virginia Cooperative Extension](#) brings the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth. [4-H](#) is the youth development education program of Virginia Cooperative Extension. 4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. 4-H, the largest comprehensive youth development program in the nation, educates young people, ages 5 to 18, through a variety of experiential techniques that encourage hands-on, active learning. [Virginia Master Naturalists](#) are volunteer educators, citizen scientists, and stewards helping Virginia conserve and manage natural resources and public lands.

[Virginia Marine Resources Commission](#) serves as stewards of the Commonwealth's marine and aquatic resources, and protectors of its tidal waters and homelands, for present and future generations. In addition to regulating saltwater fishing and water bottoms in public trust for the citizens of Virginia, they patrol the waterways to enforce the regulations and to assist boaters in need, and strive to create and maintain sustainable fisheries.

[Colleges and universities](#) play a big role in preservation of the James River and its watershed. **Christopher Newport University** offers an advanced degree program in environmental science, and undergraduate degrees in sociology and American studies. **Old Dominion University** offers degree programs in environmental and community health. The **College of William and Mary** sponsors the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the Institute for Integrative Bird Behavior Studies, the Center for Conservation Biology and has a degree program in Environmental Science and Policy. Virginia **Commonwealth University** sponsors the Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences, the Center for Environmental Studies and The Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs. The **University of Virginia** sponsors the Center for Global Health and the Institute for Environmental Negotiation, and has degree programs in landscape architecture and urban and environmental planning. **Virginia Tech** sponsors the Community Design Assistance Center and the College on Natural Resources and the Environment, the only comprehensive education, research, and outreach program in natural resources in the state.

## Other Leadership

### Counties

**Albemarle**

Alleghany

**Amelia**

**Amherst**

**Appomattox**

Augusta

Bath

**Bedford**

**Botetourt**

**Buckingham**

**Campbell**

**Charles City**

**Chesterfield**

Craig

**Cumberland**

**Dinwiddie**

**Fluvanna**

**Goochland**

Greene

Hanover

**Henrico**

Highland

**Isle of Wight**

**James City**

Louisa

**Nelson**

New Kent

**Powhatan**

Prince Edward

**Prince George**

Roanoke

**Rockbridge**

**Surry**

York

### Cities

City of Buena Vista

City of Charlottesville

City of Chesapeake

City of Colonial Heights

City of Covington

**City of Hampton**

**City of Hopewell**

City of Lexington

**City of Lynchburg**

**City of Newport News**

City of Norfolk

City of Petersburg

**City of Portsmouth**

**City of Richmond**

**City of Suffolk**

City of Virginia Beach

City of Williamsburg

### Towns

Amherst

Appomattox

**Buchanan**

**Claremont**

Clifton Forge

**Columbia**

Craigsville

Dillwyn

Fincastle

Farmville

**Glasgow**

Goshen

New Castle

**Iron Gate**

Pamplin City

**Smithfield**

**Scottsville**

Stanardsville

Troutville

Windsor

\*bold type indicates  
river frontage

### Planning District Commissions

Central Shenandoah Planning District

Commonwealth Regional Council

Crater Planning District

Hampton Roads Planning District

Richmond Regional Planning District

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional

Thomas Jefferson Planning District

Virginia's Region 2000

### DGIF Regional Offices

Tidewater and Eastern Virginia

Northern and Central Virginia

Northwest Virginia

Southcentral Virginia

### DEQ Regional Offices

Valley

Northern

Piedmont

Tidewater

Blue Ridge

### DCR Regional Offices

Warrenton

Staunton

Tappahannock

Richmond

Suffolk

Southern Piedmont

Christiansburg

### **DCR Soil and Water Cons. Districts**

Culpeper	Mountain	Headwaters
Thomas Jefferson	Hanover-Caroline	Natural Bridge
Monacan	Robert E. Lee	Mountain Castles
Peter Francisco	Henricopolis	Colonial
Peaks Of Otter	James River	Piedmont
Skyline	Blue Ridge	Appomattox River
Southside	Peanut	Virginia Dare

### **Regional Non-Profit Leadership**

Audobon Society (Richmond and Virginia Beach Chapters)  
Blue Ridge Forest Cooperative (BRFC), [www.blueridgeforestcoop.com](http://www.blueridgeforestcoop.com)  
Bon Secours Hospital System  
Buy Fresh, Buy Local Chapters  
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation  
Corporations (Dupont, Dominion, AEP, Arriva, BWX, Georgia Pacific, Norfolk Southern, CSX, St. Francis/St. Emma, Grief Bros (Amherst)  
Falling Creek Reservoir Preservation Society, <http://www.fallingcreekreservoir.org/>  
Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Committee  
Fluvanna County Chamber of Commerce  
Fluvanna County Historical Society  
Fluvanna Heritage Foundation  
Fluvanna Friends of Rural Preservation  
Fort Monroe Authority  
Friends of Chesterfield's Riverfront  
Friends of Rockfish Watershed, [www.forwatershed.org](http://www.forwatershed.org)  
Friends of the Lower Appomattox River (FOLAR), [www.craterpdc.org](http://www.craterpdc.org)  
Greater Lynchburg Environmental Network (GLEN), [publicecology.org/GLEN](http://publicecology.org/GLEN)  
Hampton Roads Center for Civic Engagement, Betsy McBride  
Hopewell Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, <http://www.ci.hopewell.va.us>  
James River Outdoor Coalition (JROC), [www.jroc.net](http://www.jroc.net)  
Jamestown Yorktown Foundation  
Jefferson Davis Association  
Journey Through Hallowed Ground  
Lynnhaven River NOW  
Lee's Retreat  
Lynchburg College, [www.lynchburg.edu](http://www.lynchburg.edu)  
Mead/Westvaco  
Navy/Shipyards, Ft. Monroe, Ft. Wool, Ft. Eustis  
North Landing River/Sierra Club, Fred Adams,  
Piedmont Environmental Council  
James River Plantations  
Westview on the James  
St. Francis/St. Emma (FrancisEmma, Inc.)  
Powhatan Tomorrow  
Tuckahoe Conservancy  
Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation  
Rivanna Conservation Society, [www.rivannariver.org](http://www.rivannariver.org)  
Rivanna River Basin , <http://rivannariverbasin.org>

Rivanna Trails Foundation  
Rockfish Valley Foundation, [www.rockfishvalley.org](http://www.rockfishvalley.org)  
Rockbridge Area Conservation Council, Steve Richards  
Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District, [www.tjswcd.org](http://www.tjswcd.org)  
Tuckahoe Conservancy  
Nansemond, Monacan and Chickahominy Tribes  
Valentine Richmond History Center, [www.richmondhistorycenter.com](http://www.richmondhistorycenter.com)  
Valley Conservation Council, Botetourt County

**Others**

Farmers  
Land Managers  
Land Trusts  
Local hospitality industry  
Local parks  
Outfitters  
Private Landowners (Easement holders)